

Richmond Times-Dispatch

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 1915.

Better Fire Protection

MAYOR ANSLIE calls attention again to one of the dangers that Richmond faces. That our water supply is wholly inadequate to combat a fire that has gained large headway is a matter of common knowledge, and yet we are quite willing, apparently, to live, unprotesting, in the presence of this serious menace.

True, we all feel a momentary uneasiness whenever the matter is brought to our attention, as it is in the annual message of the Mayor, but we forget all about it in a day or two, and go on about our business. It is greatly to be apprehended, as the Mayor says, that a destructive conflagration will be necessary to effect the needed reform.

Council should consider this situation seriously. City after city in this country has paid a heavy price for such neglect as this. We should look our stable door before the horse disappears.

Heroes of Peace

NOW that the German Iron Cross, the English Victoria Cross and the French Legion of Honor figure so largely in the reports of the war, it is interesting to turn to an American record of valor. The report of the Carnegie Hero Fund gives the histories of many men and women who have risked their lives under conditions as daunting as the artillery fire of Mons or Neuve Chapelle. Here is the record of one piece of heroism:

William A. Hall, aged forty-six, school-teacher and farmer, died saving Lafayette Worley, aged thirty-five, farmer, from suffocation. Sugar Valley, Ga., September 6, 1913. Worley was over- come by dynamite fumes in a well twenty-six feet deep, and men at the top refused to go to the rescue. Worley's wife appealed to Hall, who was approaching the well, and he immediately agreed to enter the well. Standing on a box at the end of the well rope, he was lowered to the bottom. He tied Worley to the box, and Worley was raised to the surface. Hall was overcome before the box was lowered to him, and he was dead when taken from the well, thirty minutes later.

Fields of battle have produced no more gallant deed.

Our Protest to Great Britain

THIS government's protest against Great Britain's blockade of Germany goes with unflinching and unassailable logic to the very root of the controversy, and finds there the fatal weakness of the British position. The blockade, it is pointed out, is not only a blockade of Germany, but of a long expanse of neutral coast, and in this respect has neither support in justice nor precedent in international law.

Of equal felicity and soundness is the answer to the suggestion that British departures from accepted rules of international law are excused by the policies Germany has pursued. "If the course of the present enemies of Great Britain," the note says, "should prove in fact to be tainted by illegality and disregard of the principles of law sanctioned by enlightened nations, it cannot be supposed, and this government does not for a moment suppose, that His Majesty's government would wish the same taint to attach to their own actions."

The series of notes upholding neutral rights, addressed to Great Britain and Germany, and written, it is understood, by Robert Lansing, counselor of the State Department, will take high rank as state papers. The latest in point of issue is not the least noteworthy in validity and cogency of argument and clearness and aptness of phrase.

Reasons for Life's Failures

WHAT is the actual cause of the ruin of those men whose lives go out in disaster? Is it some outside impetus or an internal weakness, needing only an occasion, and that often a trivial one?

Alcohol is named as the chief enemy of man, the cause of most failures in life. Tobacco is sometimes mildly blamed for disaster, and in recent years drugs such as morphine, cocaine and heroin have taken a front place among the agents of moral destruction.

But in rare instances other causes of failure are named, causes so singular as to seem incredible at the first glance and until reflection shows their reasonableness. For instance, a man some years ago attributed his failure in life to a college education. It had unfitted him, he said, for the occupations in which success was possible for him. An Englishman who died recently blamed his failure on reading. "Books have been my ruin," he said. "This man inherited a prosperous wine business, which he sold in order to devote himself to study. He spent most of his time in literary isolation."

Emerson, in one of his essays, speaks of the man absorbed in learning as resembling the morphia fiend, and there can be no question that the reading of fiction bears a certain likeness to the effects of drugs. In one case the excitement is accomplished by phys-

cal means, in the other by psychical. It seems that if a man's own weakness has destined him for failure, anything may serve as the motif of the tragedy.

The South's Greatest Triumph

NOW that the fiftieth anniversary of the fall of the Confederacy is at hand, the entire press of the country is devoting space to commemorative articles. It is natural that the semicentennial of the most dramatic and important event in American history should be extensively noted; it is gratifying that good-will and kindness is the universal spirit. There are no longer lingering traces of ill feeling towards the South.

The contrast between the prostrate South of 1865 and the strong and prosperous South of 1915 is constantly noted. It should be. The building of a new edifice on the ruins of the old one was an accomplishment of which any nation might be proud. But congratulations upon the semicentennial of the reunited nation and upon the wealth and happiness of the new South should not blind us as to those causes which have brought about a genuine union of the sections and have built up the South.

The Civil War itself determines one thing, and that was the retention of the South in the Union without slavery. Whether the enforced Union would be a good thing or bad depended upon certain forces, but chiefly upon the strength of character of the Southern people. The supreme trial of the South was not the war, but the Reconstruction. Then every influence was at work to intimidate or corrupt a beaten people to accept the will of the conquerors. But the South did not bend the knee. In spite of her poverty, her political nonexistence and the hatred she incurred by her course, the South remained true to her ideals, and maintained the social and political solidarity of the white race. If she had accepted racial equality, she would have been lost, and the rich and fortunate South of to-day would not have been born. By being true to herself, she arose triumphant from her ashes.

Time for Plain Speech

ONE of the readers of The Times-Dispatch, somewhat annoyed seemingly by an editorial statement that was made in this place last Monday, writes to this paper as follows:

In your plea for the reorganization of prohibition to the limbs of decided issues and the election or rejection of candidates for office on other grounds, you employ the following language, intended to be descriptive of the views of leaders of the prohibition cause: "Better, we are permitted to understand, some thick-headed chief who voted 'right' than a man of conscience, judgment and clear vision that an imported mercenary brand unworthy to make or administer Virginia's laws." Is this statement designed to express your opinion that the prohibition voters of this State are all "thick-headed clods"?

Whether this question is asked in good faith, or whether our correspondent, as our English cousins would say, is "spoofing" us, is not clear. It is hard to believe that any sane person could give our statement the meaning the question suggests. However, the answer is "No." We do not think the phrase referred to is properly descriptive of any larger proportion of the prohibition vote than it is of the local option vote.

It would be just as objectionable, in our view, to prefer a thick-headed and unprogressive local optionist to a prohibitionist of "conscience, judgment and clear vision," as to make the choice previously condemned. Our protest is against the effort to erect a false standard of fitness and to segregate with political pariahs that large body of intelligent citizenship that stood for local option, but which has accepted in candor and good faith the adverse verdict rendered at the polls.

The vote last September showed beyond question that a large majority of the voters of this State desired prohibition. In the very nature of things, prohibition sentiment will be predominant in any General Assembly at all likely to be chosen. The question Virginia must consider is, what is to be done with those who differed from the majority?

Are they to have no part and no voice in the government? Are they to be eternally proscribed? Do honorable and intelligent men believe that there can be no honest difference of opinion on this subject, and that all who opposed a particular course are leagued with lawbreakers and ought to be banished into outer darkness?

If that is the stand that is taken, the sooner that it is announced the better. It is a time for plain words and no fencing. All this talk about the "friends" and the "enemies" of prohibition is nine-tenths intellectual dishonesty and one-tenth ordinary piffle. What those fond of employing it really mean is that they should be entitled to exercise the function of Virginia's electorate and decide who shall fill public office. It may be that they have received a mandate of this description, but we take the liberty of doubting it. It does not accord with our conception of Virginia manhood.

But, at any rate, let us learn the truth and face the fact. There is neither reason nor rhyme in beating about the bush.

Count Zeppelin is reported dissatisfied with the manner in which the big gas bags that bear his name have been handled. The fact is, however, they have behaved in this war quite like some other big gas bags.

A Nova Scotian has invented a gun which will kill where its projectile hits, set fire to everything around, and at the same time send forth smothering, noxious fumes. Why not add a beheader to make sure?

A Chicago merchant declares that overstating values is necessary to meet the trade demand for a little reduction. That may be one view of it, but the one-price merchant is at least on the level.

It now appears that hobble skirts were well known to the ancient Romans. They were used probably to costume the banquets served to the Coliseum lions.

Captain McCarthy believes evidently that local talent should have a chance to operate Richmond's public utilities—and to collect the expected profits.

Viennese bachelors have had their allowance of bread reduced. Well, they cannot expect to enjoy all the privileges and immunities.

King George has shown his willingness in this war to share the sufferings of his subjects. He has become a teetotaler.

SONGS AND SAWS

The Campaign Begins.
Now doth the lady gardenier,
With fire in her eyes,
Chase back the greedy pullets
From the plants she
most doth prize.
And as she chases
pullets away
That o'er the
garden prance,
She must decide if she'll eat them
Or let them eat the plants.

The Possessivist Says:
Money, at a now obsolete stage of our national development, made the mare go; but at present nearly the only available supply is devoted to the purchase of gasoline.

Limited by Nature.
"Why does Gabby insist on discussing matters of which he knows nothing?"
"Because he has to talk, and the subjects you mention are the only ones in his repertoire."

Just Foolish About Them.
"Does your husband admire classical music, Mrs. Gottlieb?"
"He just does on it. Why, almost every evening when he comes home from his office he plays a Long Way to Tipperary on the phonograph."

Twentieth-Century Romance.
He (passionately)—I have loved you madly and long—Will you love me?
She (calmly)—Certainly not. The modern woman is unwilling to add herself to any man's assets. But I would not object to merging our careers and accepting a full partnership in the business.

Why It Was.
"Father," inquired the young hopeful, "why was it they called this new light champion 'the whizz bang'?"
"The adjective, my son," replied the patient parent, "referred to the distinguished Mr. Willard's race, while the noun represented a prophecy that he would follow the rule and triumph over experience."

An Incredulous Age.
Oh, why will bards political,
In verses hypocritical,
Extol their own chiefs?
Though fervent they and zealous,
Folks now, become incredulous,
Want reasons for beliefs.

In fact, they'd know just why and how—
They're all from Old Missouri!

THE TATTLER.

Chats With Virginia Editors

The Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch says: "In addressing the State Teachers' Association at Harrisonburg, Dr. Clayton, the United States Commissioner of Education, asserted that woman's suffrage would prevail in Virginia, 'whether the people want it or not.' The government might find something better for that man to do than running around talking through his hat. In Virginia there are 164,000 colored women over the age of twenty-one years, and with their votes possibly would control about thirty counties in this State. Some folks who talk much of woman's suffrage do not think enough about its real operation in Virginia." Doubtless many people in the Old Dominion are doing some hard thinking over this very fact.

The Fredericksburg Journal takes but little stock in universal peace talk. It says: "The Carnegie millions are apt to do more harm than good if they are expended in making this country believe, by means of hired speakers, that wars will cease and that there is no necessity for a large army and navy."

In a short talk with home merchants, the Sandy Valley News says: "An advertisement is to a merchant very much what sowing seed is to a farmer. It may take a little time for the results to become apparent, but they are sure to come. The wise farmer is not niggardly with his seed, nor the wise merchant with his advertisement." There is wisdom in that short lecture for merchants of larger communities than Sandy Valley.

The Staunton News, in urging the local people to invest more money in home enterprises and less in bonds and stocks, says: "The simple expedient of looking around us at the successful factories and wholesale houses should convince us that such concerns could and would succeed here. Bonds and stocks paying a low rate of interest have been leading to our people for generations. Such investments are safe and sane, but such investments are slow in their up-building effects upon the city and country."

The Newport News Press wants another "try" for the commission form of government in its city. It speaks out in meeting, as follows: "If a majority of the qualified voters of this city desire to change their form of government, they have the right to do so under the laws of Virginia. The only way to ascertain the will of the people is by popular election on a day when the vote can be polled. Last Saturday by the terrible storm and other causes, and the election was not a fair test of the sentiment of the people. There were irregularities so glaring that many think the court would be entirely justified in setting the election aside and ordering another."

Current Editorial Comment

A good many persons have been disposed to criticize the parcel post as an ineffective medium of communication between the farmer and the city consumer, but the reports as to the results of a year's trial of the parcel post service in the leading cities of the United States show that it has already become so important an instrumentality that it will be gradually extended throughout the country. There are now 100 daily deliveries of farm products to the city and country people take to the market, and for such supplies as we do, receives 563 daily shipments of farm produce through this channel, and if Baltimore householders are wise they will avail themselves during the next twelve months quite as freely of this method of marketing as the people of Washington are doing. The rapid growth in this system of securing table necessities proves that it offers special monetary advantages both to buyer and seller, where city and country people take to the market, and this trading on a satisfactory basis. During the coming summer many Baltimore householders will visit country sections of Maryland and Virginia, and it might be well worth their while during these vacations to make arrangements with country producers to furnish them through the parcel post with certain lines of table supplies.—Baltimore Sun.

The cycle of clothes completes itself with a regularity almost as unvarying as that of the seasons, but it takes years, instead of months, for the old fashions to recur. When the new fashions reappear, they have to be forgotten by the mass before they can come back, even in a form at all suggestive of their first estate. Let us take the cutaway coat as a type. Twenty-five

or thirty years ago every young man owned one. It was usually made of diagonal worsted, and the edges were bound with braid. The length of the tails and the number of buttons varied from season to season, but the general style of the coat was unchanged for several years. Then it disappeared, though hothouse specimens were occasionally seen. And the fashion of making men's coats with braid went with it. But a year or two ago the cutaway coat came back. The early examples were rare as the first flowers of spring that show themselves when the sun begins to warm the sheltered places. But this year we are told that every man who wishes to be well dressed must have one, and they are all braidbound, after the manner of their predecessors of the last century. The cycle has completed itself. Next season we may expect the skintight trousers to appear, for they completed the costume of the man of fashion in that far-off time when the newly recurring styles prevailed, and when the dandy, once known as a fop and earlier called a beau, was characterized as a "dude."—Philadelphia Ledger.

War News Fifty Years Ago
(From Old Files, April 7, 1865.)
Mrs. Lincoln, the wife of the President, and Mrs. General Grant came up from City Point yesterday, accompanied by several United States government officials and a military escort. The afternoon the party took carriage and, escorted by a detachment of cavalry, rode around the city. They left for City Point late in the evening.

Ice-President Andrew Johnson, Charles A. Dana and Preston Blair are in the city viewing the ruins. They will return to City Point tonight. Secretaries William H. Seward and Edwin M. Stanton are expected to reach here tomorrow or next day.

The Army Band, a Richmond organization, serenaded Major-General Godfrey Wetzell at his headquarters last night. Later the band serenaded General Shipley, the military governor, and also Lieutenant-Colonel Manning, the provost marshal.

M. B. Brady, a celebrated photographer of New York, with a full corps of assistants, and with all of the necessary apparatus and material, is in the city photographing the burned district and other places of interest. Artists for Frank Leslie's and Harper's Weekly are also here.

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"To the General Commanding United States Forces:

"General,—The army of Confederate government having abandoned the city of Richmond, I respectfully request that you will take possession of it with an organized force, to preserve and protect the women and children and property.

"Respectfully, etc.,
"JOSEPH MAYO,
"Mayor."

General Wetzell has reported to Secretary Stanton that of railway stock he found here, there were twenty-eight locomotives, forty-four passenger and baggage cars, and 106 freight cars. All others had been carried South by the Confederates.

Yesterday there was a good display of marketing in the Second Market. Fish, fowl, and vegetables were sold at low prices for specie and Federal currency. Shad were going at 50 cents apiece; eggs, 60 per dozen; butter, 60 to 75 cents per pound; beef, 15 to 25 cents per pound, according to quality. In the First Market the supply was not so good, as that market gets its stock from the section that has been overrun by the armies.

The country people bringing provisions and vegetables to the city seem to be delighted to again behold their old and almost forgotten acquaintances, gold and silver, and they greet most cordially their new friend, the greenback. Even the Northern papers do not give us any news of the movements of the armies of Generals Johnston and Sherman. They are all filled with accounts of the celebrations of the fall of Richmond, and have but little room for other war news.

The Voice of the People

Editorial Position Indorsed.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:—Please commend your editorials, "Understanding City Finances" and "When Will It Be Settled?" in your issue of April 5.

They are to the point—within the comprehension of the average intelligence and not too long and tedious to read.

Your editorial generally, and especially on the above themes, are to the point, and calculated to do much good. Keep up the good work, and we will be glad to have you improve our fellow-citizens, too much inclined to leave civic affairs to Providence. L. M. B. Richmond, April 6, 1915.

Queries and Answers

Equal Suffrage and Prohibition.

How many States have adopted woman suffrage, and how many of these have adopted prohibition? E. L. RHODES.

Eleven, Three.

Manassas.

The Query Column states that Manassas was the first battle in Virginia. Please give date of Manassas. I fought at Bethel, June 1, 1861. This was before Manassas; and Wyatt, of North Carolina, said to have been the first Confederate soldier killed, was killed in that battle.

R. T. JETER.

The statement was that Manassas was the first of considerable battles. It was fought July 21, 1861. Wyatt was not "of North Carolina." He was born and reared in Richmond. He was not the first Confederate soldier killed. Captain John Q. Marr, of the Warrenton Rifles, was killed in command of his company June 1, 1861.

Manassas.

Where may I get the text of the new tax law? Write for it to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, Capitol Building, Richmond, Va.

Water-Color Exhibition.

How may I obtain details of the water-color exhibition to be given by MRS. R. N. Write Richmond Art Club, Belvidere and Grace Streets, Richmond, Va.

Manassas.

What is the area of Manassas-Lorraine? What is the place of France in the list of national wealth? W. S. B.

Five thousand six hundred and three square miles. United States, Great Britain, Germany, France, come in the given order.

The Bright Side of Life

Ways That Are Dark.

A woman interested in charity work was accustomed each day to pass by the door of a Chinese laundry wherein were employed two Chinese. Each time she passed, the charity worker would stop for an instant and speak to the boys.

"Hello, John," she would call out, to which salutation the Celestial would reply, "Hello, lady."

One day she saw only one Chinaman where there had been two, and she asked: "Where is the other, John?"

"Him in hospital," said the laundryman. "Clistan gentleman stuck him in the head with a brick."—Argonaut.

He has a razor like a tennis racket—rough on one side, smooth on other—and if you slant it a little, it cuts.—Cornell Widow.

Student—I want a Herodotus trot.
Bookseller—Here's Vernon Castle's "Modern Dancing."—Williams Purple Cow.

Society House Chatter.
Charles—Why, what are you doing with those young men's pictures up here in your room?
Mabel—Oh, those? Why, that's my collection of souvenir spoons.—Nellysna Awgwan.

Having a Fierce Time Getting the Thing Opened Up

One of the Day's Best Cartoons.



—From the Duluth News-Tribune.

ANNE MORGAN'S IDEALS FOR WOMEN

NEW YORK, April 5.—Miss Anne Morgan, who in the ideals she has put into practice is the exponent of the New Unionism for women in the field of labor, gave a reporter her vision for her wage-earning sisters.

This daughter of millions, seated in her own sanctum on the top floor of the Morgan house—a room that might have been transplanted from a French chateau, with American Beauty roses in the jardiniere on either side of the white hearth of the open fireplace—outlined a plan for women who work.

It is a plan that demands, first and last, room for achievement—not specialization for the manufacturer or promoter, not some shred of a trade or some narrow executive groove, but the opportunity of development along the line of ambition and ability, as the basis of respect and position, or security and ease in later life; as a solution, in short, of the eternal grind of monotony and poverty.

Miss Morgan is so far personally concerned with the working girl that she is giving herself heart and soul to the cause of the working girl. She is studying a picture of the Seventy-First Regiment, Army, in which 200 of these young women perform in all parts, from a clown to an elephant. And while she could go so far as to lead her own house for a rehearsal of the "greatest show," and help along the acts by personal direction, she was moved not only by her desire to make the benefit for the girls a big one, but also to teach the girls themselves how to play.

It is all part of the general scheme which for a number of years past Miss Morgan has been evolving through study and experience. "They Don't Know How to Play." "They don't know how to play," they have not had the habit—we have to teach them," said Miss Morgan. "That is why I like the Vacation Committee, why I believe in the Strand dance hall. I am in favor of organization. Yes, every girl and woman who works needs to know what organization means. To know that in a collection of 500 or 5,000 workers each cannot have individual expression. There is discipline in a union that modifies and tones. It is a habit that is a habit. I am not at all in favor of trade unionism in its present working-out. It is bad for all concerned. Every question is reduced to one of the offensive and defensive."

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"Instead of warfare we want cooperation, accomplishment. The girls' and employers' interests are identical. Both want efficiency, the employers for their business, the girls for permanency of occupation and security of living."

"To-day is woman's opportunity to bring a new interpretation into the relations of labor and capital. It is her chance if she can do it better than we see it. A woman is more patient, more understanding of another person's viewpoint, than a man. She is the natural arbiter."

Scores Trade Unionism.
"To-day trades unionism is nothing more than a question of salary and hours. But that is after all not the true consideration. It is the standardizing of work. Granted that the living wage and the time to live are a right as well as a necessity, work was never a mathematical calculation of hours and dollars."

"We all know that in any task we may at times greatly overtax ourselves to accomplish something worth while. Such a foot rule is a bid for mediocrity. It is the best of public schools."

"Our schools are planned only for the children of mediocre intelligence, but there is not the smallest provision for the supernormal child. What we want in this world," went on Miss Morgan, leaning back in her chair and raising her dark, bright eyes with a piercing glance—reminiscent of her father—"is achievement."

"It is not the girl down at the bottom we want to reach for; it is the girl who has proved herself, the girl who wants something better, who is striving for something better. When she gets it she will reach out for the one below. She can do it better than we can. It is through those at the top we can help those at the bottom."

"We have to give a girl a chance to show what she can do—what she and no other can do in just the same manner. She must have the opportunity to develop her own peculiar capabilities. The employment manager of a big concern has the whole crux of the situation in his hands. He is really the most important factor, the intermediary between employer and employee, because he selects, he discriminates."

"It lies with him not only to employ labor, but to vocationalize his laborers. The employer must learn that his specialization must be along the lines of advancement for the worker who is worthy. The girl who works never must be satisfied. She must be reaching out continually for something better, something higher in her work."

"Suffrage for workingwomen?" asked Miss Morgan. She was sorting the pictures of her circus girls as she spoke, and stopped with a group of the Indian in her firm white hand to consider the question.

"I cannot persuade myself that suffrage is the important thing for women now. It is coming, of course; it is bound to come; it must come automatically sooner or later. When I say suffrage I distinctly divide it from political life. In my mind political life is public life, civic life, and women need that."

"The responsibility is pressing everywhere, pressing more and more heavily. It is there without the vote—the responsibility for the wage-earner as well as the woman not called upon to earn her bread. We have only to look around us to see how onerous it is. Miss Morgan is a great believer in the influence of spaces on the young workers who live cramped lives in small and unwholesome quarters. That is why she is interested in the Girls' Camp, for which a piece of the Harrison property at Greenwood Lake was given. They will sleep in tents and have as much privacy as is possible, and room to stretch themselves."

"The big out-of-doors is the best thing for them," went on Miss Morgan. "It may seem odd, but the girls we have raised to pay \$5 a week, and probably \$5 for their equipment, the girls who have begun to achieve who will come. We shall sell the stock to them at \$15 a share, so that in the end they may own their camp."

"Need to know how to play." "Yes, they need to know how to play," Miss Morgan was critically studying a picture of the cowboys, "and the circus is a lark for us all. We hope to swell the vacation fund tremendously."

Miss Morgan puts in many more than union hours of her self-imposed labor of helping girls. She begins to keep appointments at a week A. M. in that wonderful study where rose darts in the upholstery stand out against the white paneled walls. Her watchword is "achievement," and she keeps it in mind every hour of the twenty-four.

The Drug Problem
Drug addiction is very common in this country, and constitutes a menace to the public health, according to an article in the Public Health Reports, which reviewed the efforts made to lessen the abuse of habit-forming drugs and analyzes the Federal and State laws restricting or regulating the distribution and use of opium, cocaine, and other narcotic and habit-forming drugs.

The abuse of narcotic drugs involves economic, social, moral and public health questions that collectively constitute one of the most serious problems before the people of the United States to-day.

In New York and several other States, drug addiction is regarded as a disease, and these States have provided a systematic treatment for those addicted to the use of drugs, while in Michigan such a person may be